

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

YOKOYA et al.

International Application No. PCT/JP02/08079

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED

International Filing Date: 07 August 2002 (07.08.2002)

Filed: February 5, 2004

For: GENE PANEL PARTICIPATIVE IN HEPATIC STELLATE CELL
ACTIVATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

Prior to examining on the merits and calculating the filing fee for the Continuation of the international patent application filed herewith, please enter the following amendments in the captioned application:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification on the first page, as shown in the Attachment A.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3-5, and claim 8 of the application filed herewith and add new claims 10-15, as shown on the Attachment B.

REMARKS

The above amendments have been made to remove multiple dependencies from the claims and to conform them to U.S. practice. No new matter has been added. This amendment is submitted in the new revised format where only one version of the claims is required.

Respectfully submitted,

NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC

By:



Todd L. Juneau

Registration No. 40,669

Customer No. 20529

Date: February 5, 2004
NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC
1030th Street, NW - 6th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 775-8383
TLJ/ph